

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

1 - 20 (Canceled)

21. (New) A dishwasher comprising a washing container, devices for applying rinsing liquor to the items to be washed in the washing container, and at least one wash program comprising partial program steps e.g. "pre-wash", "clean", "intermediate rinse" and "clear rinse", the washing container being operable to receive therein a gas having an oxidising effect that has been added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water and/or otherwise added into the interior of the washing container for use for a partial program step having a cleaning effect, e.g. "clean" so that the gas can at least be used for cleaning and disinfection.
22. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect can be applied to the items to be washed in cooperation with mist in the interior of the washing container.
23. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 22, wherein the mist can be produced from rinsing liquid or raw water by a nebulising device, e.g. an ultrasound nebuliser or a nebulising nozzle.
24. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 23, wherein gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device.
25. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 23, wherein no gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to

the nebulising device and the gas having an oxidising effect is added directly to the interior of the washing container.

26. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction, using a porous membrane in the rinsing liquor, preferably at the bottom of the washing container.
27. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction using a water jet diffuser for fine distribution of the gas.
28. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the water jet pump is disposed in the raw water pipe or in the circulating pipe for acting upon the devices for applying rinsing liquor to the items to be washed, wherein preferably only a portion of the raw water or the rinsing liquor is passed to a branch.
29. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water in the rinsing liquor reservoir and/or the heat exchanger for disinfection, to prevent growth of bacteria in the rinsing liquor reservoir and/or heat exchanger.
30. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is ozone which is produced in an ozone generator.
31. (New) A method for using a gas having an oxidising effect in a dishwasher having at least one wash program comprising partial program steps e.g. "pre-wash", "clean", "intermediate rinse" and "clear rinse", characterised in that a gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water and/or into the interior of the washing container for use for a partial program step

having a cleaning effect, e.g. "clean" so that the gas can at least be used for cleaning and disinfection.

32. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect can be applied to the items to be washed in cooperation with mist in the interior of the washing container.
33. (New) The method according to claim 32, wherein the mist can be produced from rinsing liquid or raw water by a nebulising device, e.g. an ultrasonic nebuliser or a nebulising nozzle.
34. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device.
35. (New) The method according to claim 33, wherein no gas having an oxidising effect is already added to the rinsing liquor or the raw water which is supplied to the nebulising device and the gas having an oxidising effect is added directly to the washing container.
36. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction, using a porous membrane in the rinsing liquor, preferably at the bottom of the washing container.
37. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is added to the rinsing liquor for solution and reaction using a water jet pump with a diffuser for fine distribution of the gas.

38. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the surface tension of the rinsing liquor is lowered by adding tensides to the rinsing liquor and the effect of the ultrasonic nebuliser is thereby enhanced.
39. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the gas having an oxidising effect is ozone, which is produced in an ozone generator.
40. (New) A dishwasher comprising a washing container and devices for applying rinsing liquor to the items to be washed in the washing container, the washing container being operable to receive therein ozone-enriched mist at least for cleaning items to be washed.